ANNOUNCEMENT – April 28, 2009

Dr. David Eslinger to Join Project CI-FLOW

CI-FLOW project leaders, in partnership with the NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC), are excited to announce that Dr. David Eslinger will join NOAA's Coastal, Inland FLood Observation and Warning (CI-FLOW) Project, on a part-time basis, effective immediately. CI-FLOW is a research and demonstration project for the evaluation and testing of new technologies and techniques to produce accurate and timely identification of inland and coastal floods and flash floods. The vision of the CI-FLOW project is captured through the project's signature phrase "tracking the raindrop from the sky to the summit to the sea,"

Dr. Eslinger will be an integral part of the project team to help shape the scientific goals of the project and coordinate the many partners both directly and indirectly involved in CI-FLOW. In this role, Dr. Eslinger will help CI-FLOW sustain its collaborative research environment which fosters partnerships among pre-eminent researchers in atmospheric and ocean observing and modeling and multi-sensor high-resolution precipitation estimation techniques. In 2000, NOAA's National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL), National Sea Grant (NSG) College Program, University of Oklahoma (OU), and the North and South Carolina Sea Grant programs defined the project's focus to be North Carolina's Tar-Pamlico and Neuse river basins which sustained catastrophic flood losses due to Hurricane Floyd in 1999. North Carolina State University (NCSU) joined the project shortly thereafter contributing expertise with their ocean-estuary hydrodynamic modeling framework. More recently, the National Weather Service (NWS) Office of Hydrologic Development (OHD) joined the project by contributing their Hydrologic Laboratory Research Distributed Hydrologic Model (HL-RDHM). In 2007, a partnership between researchers at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and OU brought the ADCIRC ocean model into CI-FLOW. The project is continuing efforts to add water quality components to the coupled river-coastal ocean modeling system through partnerships with NCSU and NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL).

Dr. Eslinger's extensive efforts in working with coastal and marine science researchers and stakeholders in the Carolina region, as well as serving as the primary liaison for NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) modeling activities at CSC, provides a unique and valuable perspective to CI-FLOW leadership as it continues to build partnerships among observing and modeling communities operating within coastal watersheds. His research expertise in ocean modeling will be leveraged to strengthen the existing dialog among the project's researchers and sustain a pathway to incorporate feedback from stakeholders. In his new part-time role with CI-FLOW, Dr. Eslinger will also retain his current duties with NOAA's CSC. This collaboration will help CI-FLOW strategically develop partnership opportunities and will help CI-FLOW accomplish its project milestones (www.nssl.noaaa.gov/ciflow) as the project works toward a critical test during the 2009 Atlantic Hurricane Season. This milestone will be the first attempt by the project team to implement an end-to-end integrated coastal watershed observing and modeling system to produce pseudo-real time simulations of water quantity and quality from the Tar-Pamlico and Neuse River headwaters to the Pamlico Sound for a tropical landfalling system. CI-FLOW welcomes Dr. Eslinger to the CI-FLOW team as we continue to realize the project vision of "tracking the raindrop from the sky to the summit to the sea."